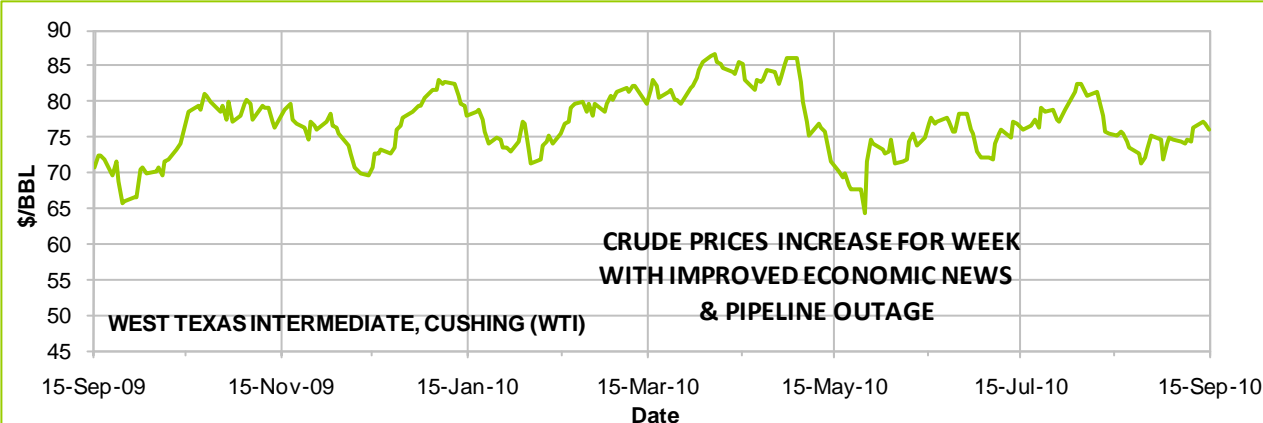


Crude Oil



Crude inventories fell by 2.5million barrels this week. This was in line with the expected decline of between 2.3 and 2.5 million but it was 51% less than the 5-year average decline of 5.1 million. Although production fell by 0.5% and crude inputs to refineries rose by 0.6%, imports rose by 1.6%. Crude stocks are 7.2% above last year and 12.9% above the 5-year average. Inventory levels are at their highest level for this date since 1990 and are the second highest ever for the time period.

Crude prices rose for the week with an encouraging economic news and a pipeline outage in the U.S. Spot prices and futures prices were up \$1.27 and \$0.42 for the week and by \$3.86 and \$4.50 over the past 3 weeks after declining over the previous 3 weeks. The spot price settled at \$75.90, \$5.12 (7.2%) higher than a year ago. Futures prices were at \$80.50, \$7.12 (9.7%) higher than last year. Both prices are almost 50% below 2008's peak price.

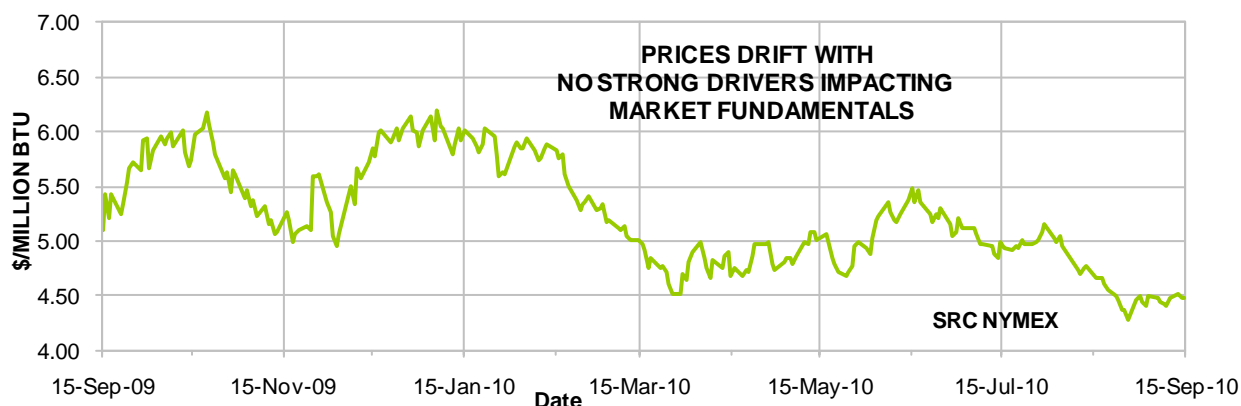


Natural gas



Inventories grew by 103 BCF this week, slightly higher than the expected range of 90 to 100 BCF. It was 34% above the 5-year average gain of 77 BCF. Over the past 26 weeks inventories have grown by 1,652 BCF, 7.7% higher than the normal gain of 1,534 BCF. At 3,267 BCF, this week's inventory level is 6.2% above the 5-year average but trails last year's record high of 3,449 BCF by 5.3%. Inventories remain at high levels despite U.S. cooling degrees days running 21% above normal this year.

Futures prices rose slightly this week with no extreme weather and no serious storm threats impacting the market. Futures prices settled at \$4.482 per million BTU, up 6.9 cents for the week but 12.1% lower than a year ago. They are 66.4% below their 2008 peak. Spot prices rose by 25.0 cents on scattered weather demand. At \$4.070 per million BTU, they are 26.8% higher than a year ago but 69.4% below their 2008 peak price.

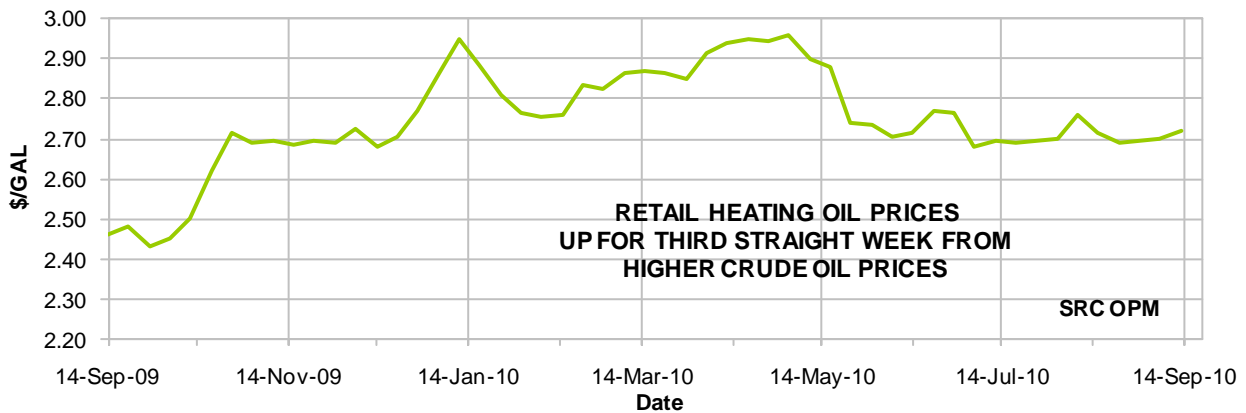


Heating oil



Distillate stocks fell unexpectedly by 340,000 barrels this week and by 3.5 million over the past 3 weeks compared to a normal 3-week gain of 3.7 million. They are 4.2% above last year and are still at a record high for this date, 22.7% above the five-year average.

The 12 month strip rose by 2.9 cents this week as prices followed crude upward. It is now at \$2.200/gal, 28.6 cents (14.9%) higher than a year ago. The spot price rose by 5.0 cents this week and is at \$2.104 /gal, 36.6 cents (21.1%) above last year. Prices are about half of their 2008 peaks. Retail prices rose by 2.4 cents this week and by 3.0 cents over the past 3 weeks as higher crude prices pushed up retail prices. Retail prices are now at \$2.722/gal. They are 26.2 cents (10.6%) above a year ago but are \$2.045 (42.9%) below their 2008 peak price. The highest price in this week's survey was \$3.249 and the lowest was \$2.389. According to census data, 49.1% of dwelling units in Connecticut heat with oil.



Connecticut Regional Heating Oil Prices

	FAIRFIELD			HARTFORD			NEW LONDON		
	AVG	HIGH	LOW	AVG	HIGH	LOW	AVG	HIGH	LOW
14-Sep-09	2.641	2.999	2.399	2.434	2.999	1.999	2.411	2.620	2.179
30-Aug-10	2.826	3.249	2.400	2.678	3.199	2.399	2.681	2.840	2.480
6-Sep-10	2.828	3.249	2.400	2.682	3.199	2.299	2.681	2.840	2.480
13-Sep-10	2.860	3.249	2.500	2.731	3.199	2.399	2.703	2.920	2.480
	LITCHFIELD			MIDDLESEX			TOLLAND-WINDHAM		
	AVG	HIGH	LOW	AVG	HIGH	LOW	AVG	HIGH	LOW
14-Sep-09	2.463	2.549	2.349	2.501	2.599	2.400	2.413	2.599	2.309
30-Aug-10	2.617	2.679	2.549	2.751	2.899	2.590	2.623	2.749	2.499
6-Sep-10	2.631	2.699	2.549	2.751	2.899	2.590	2.636	2.749	2.499
13-Sep-10	2.641	2.749	2.549	2.744	2.849	2.599	2.644	2.749	2.449
	NEW HAVEN								
	AVG	HIGH	LOW						
14-Sep-09	2.385	2.590	2.099						
30-Aug-10	2.639	2.899	2.359						
6-Sep-10	2.638	2.890	2.369						
13-Sep-10	2.658	2.890	2.389						

OPM conducts a weekly survey of retail heating oil prices in Connecticut. These figures reference the most recent results of that survey for the reporting week beginning September 13, 2010. Figures reflect per gallon prices without discount.

For more information, see www.ct.gov/OPM > Energy Management > Energy Price and Supply Information

Propane



After 25 consecutive weeks of inventory gains, propane inventories fell by 0.2 million barrels this past week. This compares with a 5-year average gain of 0.9 million for the time week. Current storage levels now trail last year's levels by 9.8% compared to a deficit of 22% just 7 weeks ago. Inventories are 1.4% above the 5-year average.

Spot propane prices have been generally tracking crude oil prices. They were 4.2 cents higher this past week and up by 11.2 cents over the past four weeks. Prices have fallen by 30.5 cents (21.1%) since the beginning of the year. At \$1.142 per gallon yesterday, spot prices are 19.5 cents (20.6%) higher than a year ago but 42.3% lower than their peak 2008 price. According to census data, propane is used to heat 2.7% of homes in Connecticut.



Gasoline



Gasoline inventories fell by 0.7 million barrels this past week compared to an expected decline of between 0.4 and 0.75 million and a 5-year average decline of 0.26 million barrels. Inventories levels are 8.1% above last year and 14.1% above the 5-year average. Stocks are at their highest level ever for this date.

Futures and spot prices continue to track crude prices. At \$2.077/gal, futures rose by 1.6 cents this week and are 16.1 cents (8.4%) higher than last year. At \$1.980/gal, the spot price rose 2.0 cents and is 16.7 cents (9.2%) higher than a year ago. Spot prices and futures prices are about 42% below their 2008 peaks. Retail prices rose by 1.0 cents this past week after falling by 11.4 cents over the previous 4 weeks. Rising crude prices and improving refinery margins were the main reasons for the increases. At \$2.794/gal, retail prices are 0.5 cents (0.2%) lower than a year ago and they are 36.4% (\$1.596) below 2008's peak.

